



RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR 1.116

EXPEDITED PROCEDURE

EXAMINING GROUP 1641

Docket No.: 10690/101683

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Berend HOUWEN, et al.

Serial No. 09/058,323

Filed: April 9, 1998

For: PROCESS FOR DISCRIMINATING AND COUNTING ERYTHROBLASTS

(a)

Examiner: G. Gabel

Art Unit: 1641

(b)

New York, New York April 17, 2001

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION INCLUDING AMENDMENT PURSUANT TO RULE 116

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, DC 20231 BOX AF

Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action mailed January 17, 2001 which set a shortened statutory period of three months for response. Accordingly, this response is filed timely upon mailing with an executed Certificate of Mailing on or before April 17, 2001.

It is not believed that this response occasions any fee but should there be any fee, please charge the same to Deposit Account No. 02-4467.